

Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)

EqIAs make services better for everyone and support value for money by getting services right first time.

EqIAs enable us to consider all the information about a service, policy or strategy from an equalities perspective and then create an action plan to get the best outcomes for service users and staff¹. They analyse how all our work as a council might impact differently on different groups protected from discrimination by the Equality Act 2010². They help us make good decisions and evidence how we have reached them.³

An EqIA needs to be started as a project starts to identify and consider possible differential impacts on people and their lives, inform project planning and, where appropriate, identify mitigating actions. A full EqIA must be completed before any decisions are made or policy agreed so that the EqIA informs that decision or policy. It is also a live document; you should review and update it along with your project plan throughout.

You should first consider whether you need to complete this full EqIA⁴.

Other key points to note:

- Full guidance notes to help you are embedded in this form – see the End Notes or hover the mouse over the numbered notes.
- Please share your EqIA with your Equalities Champion and the final/updated version at the end of the project.
- Major EqIAs should be reviewed by the relevant Head of Service.
- Examples of completed EqIAs can be found on the Equalities Hub

1. Responsibility for the EqIA

Title of proposal ⁵	Annual Fees and Charges Increase
Name and job title of completing officer	Matthew Gunyon – Head of Greenspaces
Head of service area responsible	Matthew Gunyon – Head of Greenspaces
Equalities Champion supporting the EqIA	
Performance Management rep	
HR rep (for employment related issues)	
Representative (s) from external stakeholders	

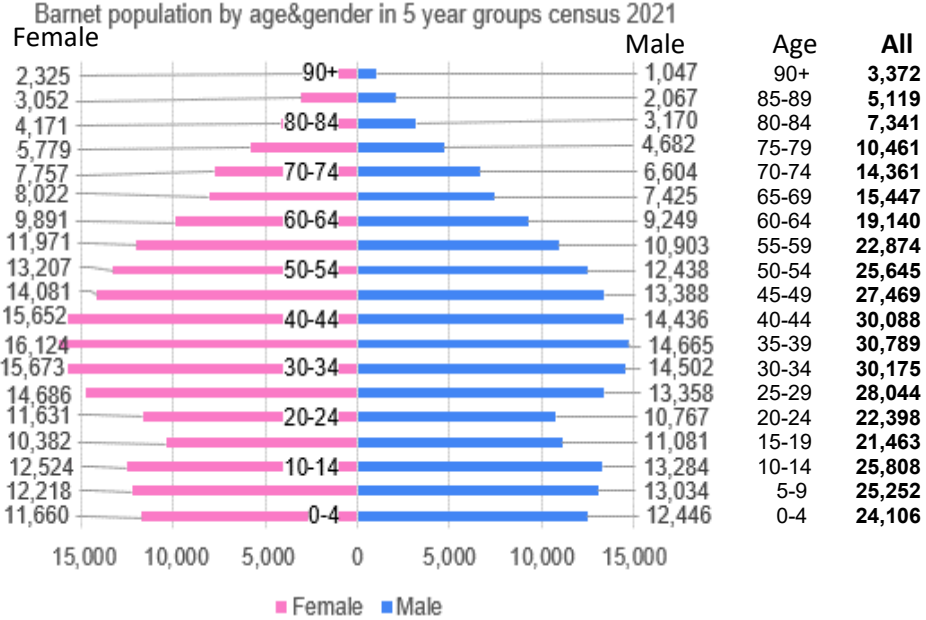
2. Description of proposal

Is this a: (Please tick all that apply)	
New policy /strategy / function / procedure / service <input type="checkbox"/>	Review of Policy /strategy / function / procedure / service <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Budget Saving <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If budget saving please specify value below:	If other please specify below: Annual Fees and Charges
<i>Please outline in no more than 3 paragraphs⁶:</i>	
<p>The council undertakes an annual review of its fees and charges in line with inflationary rates. The annual review and any new additions are subject to approval and agreement in line with the approval process set out in the constitution.</p> <p>The majority of the fees and charges are proposed to be increased by 5% which is below the current levels of inflation. The only area increased above this rate is car parking charges which have been aligned with other parking charges across the council, these charges are proposed to be raised broadly by 10% though they have been rounded to the nearest £0.05p.</p>	

3. Supporting evidence

What existing data informs your assessment of the impact of the proposal on protected groups of service users and/or staff?

Identify the main sources of evidence, both quantitative and qualitative, that supports your analysis

Protected group	<p>What does the data tell you?⁷</p> <p>Provide a summary of any relevant demographic data about the borough's population (the 2021 Census data has already been included below to aid officer).</p>	<p>What do people tell you⁸?</p> <p>Provide a summary of relevant consultation and engagement including surveys and other research with stakeholders, newspaper articles correspondence etc.</p>																																																																																
Age ⁹	<p>Data source: ONS mid-year estimates of the population or Census Maps 2021 ONS</p> <p>30-44 year groups are the largest cohorts for both female and male residents. For children, whilst the 15-29 cohort is the smallest, the youngest three cohorts are successively smaller, with there being over 1,000 less 0-4 years than 5-9 years. Barnet has twice as many female residents that are 90+ than male residents.</p>  <table border="1" data-bbox="443 678 1366 1300"> <caption>Barnet population by age&gender in 5 year groups census 2021</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Female</th> <th>Male</th> <th>Age</th> <th>All</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>2,325</td><td>1,047</td><td>90+</td><td>3,372</td></tr> <tr><td>3,052</td><td>2,067</td><td>85-89</td><td>5,119</td></tr> <tr><td>4,171</td><td>3,170</td><td>80-84</td><td>7,341</td></tr> <tr><td>5,779</td><td>4,682</td><td>75-79</td><td>10,461</td></tr> <tr><td>7,757</td><td>6,604</td><td>70-74</td><td>14,361</td></tr> <tr><td>8,022</td><td>7,425</td><td>65-69</td><td>15,447</td></tr> <tr><td>9,891</td><td>9,249</td><td>60-64</td><td>19,140</td></tr> <tr><td>11,971</td><td>10,903</td><td>55-59</td><td>22,874</td></tr> <tr><td>13,207</td><td>12,438</td><td>50-54</td><td>25,645</td></tr> <tr><td>14,081</td><td>13,388</td><td>45-49</td><td>27,469</td></tr> <tr><td>15,652</td><td>14,436</td><td>40-44</td><td>30,088</td></tr> <tr><td>16,124</td><td>14,665</td><td>35-39</td><td>30,789</td></tr> <tr><td>15,673</td><td>14,502</td><td>30-34</td><td>30,175</td></tr> <tr><td>14,686</td><td>13,358</td><td>25-29</td><td>28,044</td></tr> <tr><td>11,631</td><td>10,767</td><td>20-24</td><td>22,398</td></tr> <tr><td>10,382</td><td>11,081</td><td>15-19</td><td>21,463</td></tr> <tr><td>12,524</td><td>13,284</td><td>10-14</td><td>25,808</td></tr> <tr><td>12,218</td><td>13,034</td><td>5-9</td><td>25,252</td></tr> <tr><td>11,660</td><td>12,446</td><td>0-4</td><td>24,106</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Female	Male	Age	All	2,325	1,047	90+	3,372	3,052	2,067	85-89	5,119	4,171	3,170	80-84	7,341	5,779	4,682	75-79	10,461	7,757	6,604	70-74	14,361	8,022	7,425	65-69	15,447	9,891	9,249	60-64	19,140	11,971	10,903	55-59	22,874	13,207	12,438	50-54	25,645	14,081	13,388	45-49	27,469	15,652	14,436	40-44	30,088	16,124	14,665	35-39	30,789	15,673	14,502	30-34	30,175	14,686	13,358	25-29	28,044	11,631	10,767	20-24	22,398	10,382	11,081	15-19	21,463	12,524	13,284	10-14	25,808	12,218	13,034	5-9	25,252	11,660	12,446	0-4	24,106	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fees and Charges could disadvantage users based on their age, specifically junior and senior users. • Concessionary rates are applied Junior (under 16s) and Senior (over 60s) bookings. • For example Tennis Pay and Play, Pitch Bookings and Tennis Season Tickets.
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Disability ¹⁰	<p>Census Maps Census 2021 – Health - Disability, ONS (age-standardised) 14.2% of people in Barnet are disabled under the equality act: --- of which 6.4% day-to-day activities limited a lot (2nd lowest quintile) --- of which 7.8% day-to-day activities limited a little (lowest quintile) 85.8% of people in Barnet are not disabled under the equality act (highest quintile)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no reported cost barriers to access services covered within the Greenspaces Fees and Charges for individuals that fall within this category. 								
Gender reassignment ¹¹	<p>Gender identity - Census Maps, ONS 0.82% of people aged 16 years and over in Barnet have a gender identity different from their sex registered at birth. Highest in North Finchley (2.16%), Brent Cross & Staples Corner (1.76%) & Mill Hill Broadway (1.41) all in 2nd highest quintile. Lowest in Totteridge and Barnet Gate (0.25%), West Finchley (0.31%), Hampstead Garden Suburb (0.35), Oakleigh Park (0.38) Oak Hill(0.38%), Mill Hill East (0.39%) – all in the bottom quintile</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="432 1045 1288 1311"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="432 1045 627 1129">Sexual orientation</th> <th data-bbox="627 1045 757 1129">All-Barnet</th> <th data-bbox="757 1045 1019 1129">Highest MOSAs</th> <th data-bbox="1019 1045 1288 1129">Lowest MOSAs</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 1129 627 1311">Straight or Heterosexual</td> <td data-bbox="627 1129 757 1311">87.27% (middle quintile)</td> <td data-bbox="757 1129 1019 1311">Totteridge&BG (90.81%) Mill Hill Oak (89.98%) EdgwarePark (89.90%)</td> <td data-bbox="1019 1129 1288 1311">Golders G North (80.90%) Golders G South (83.82%) Temple Fortune (83.88%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sexual orientation	All-Barnet	Highest MOSAs	Lowest MOSAs	Straight or Heterosexual	87.27% (middle quintile)	Totteridge&BG (90.81%) Mill Hill Oak (89.98%) EdgwarePark (89.90%)	Golders G North (80.90%) Golders G South (83.82%) Temple Fortune (83.88%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no reported cost barriers to access services covered within the Greenspaces Fees and Charges for individuals that fall within this category.
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	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Other (LGB+)	2.79% (2 nd lowest quintile)	East Finchley (5.18%) Golders G South (4.75%) Colindale W&S (4.59%) Childs Hill (4.59%)	Edgware Park (1.42%) Totteridge&BG (1.43%) Osidge (1.81%)	
	Not answered	9.94% (middle quintile)	Golders G North (16.90%) Temple Fortune (13.17%) Hendon Park (12.74%)	New Barnet West (7.63%) Totteridge&BG (7.76%) Oakleigh Park (8.00%)	
Marriage and Civil Partnership ¹²	Legal partnership status - Census Maps, ONS 47.2% of people aged 16 years and over in Barnet are married or in a registered civil partnership, 52.8% have another status				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no reported cost barriers to access services covered within the Greenspaces Fees and Charges for individuals that fall within this category.
Pregnancy and Maternity ¹³	Conception and fertility rates - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no reported cost barriers to access services covered within the Greenspaces Fees and Charges for individuals that fall within this category.

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	Other religion	1.3% (middle quintile)	West Finchley (3.2%) Edgware Park (2.9%) North Finchley (2.6%) Woodside Park (2.6%)	Grahame Park (0.6%) Hendon Park (0.6%) Golders G North (0.6%)													
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4. Assessing impact

What does the evidence tell you about the impact your proposal may have on groups with protected characteristics ¹⁹?

Protected characteristic	For each protected characteristic, explain in detail what the evidence is suggesting and the impact of your proposal (if any). Is there an impact on service deliver? Is there an impact on customer satisfaction? Click the appropriate box on the right to indicate the outcome of your analysis.	Positive impact	Negative impact		No impact
			Minor	Major	
Age	An increase in F&C may have a minor impact to age groups, specifically dependents (children and young people) and older people with limited income/pensioners. This is mitigated through the inclusion of concessionary rates for Under 16s and Over 60s	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	No reported impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment	No reported impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No reported impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and Maternity	No reported impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Race/ Ethnicity	No reported impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Religion or belief	No reported impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Sex	No reported impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation	No reported impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Other key groups Are there any other vulnerable groups that might be affected by the proposal? <i>These could include carers, people in receipt of care, lone parents, people with low incomes or unemployed</i>		Positive impact	Negative impact		No impact
			Minor	Major	
Key groups	No reported impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

6. Cumulative impact²⁰

Considering what else is happening within the council and Barnet could your proposal contribute to a cumulative impact on groups with protected characteristics?

Yes No

N/A

7. Actions to mitigate or remove negative impact

Only complete this section if your proposals may have a negative impact on groups with protected characteristics. These need to be included in the relevant service plan for mainstreaming and performance management purposes.

Group affected	Potential negative impact	Mitigation measures ²¹ <i>If you are unable to identify measures to mitigate impact, please state so and provide a brief explanation.</i>	Monitoring ²² <i>How will you assess whether these measures are successfully mitigating the impact?</i>	Deadline date	Lead Officer
All	Users cease using the services proved by the Greenspaces Services	The service will monitor the usage of the services offered. The service will review its marketing of more affordable options available within the services offered.	Impacts will be monitored against previous years bookings data and if action is required current data will be reviewed against previous years	Ongoing – reviewed monthly	

8. Outcome of the Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)²³

Please select one of the following four outcomes

Proceed with no changes

The EqIA has not identified any potential for a disproportionate impact and all opportunities to advance equality of opportunity are being addressed

Proceed with adjustments

Adjustments are required to remove/mitigate negative impacts identified by the assessment

Negative impact but proceed anyway

This EqIA has identified negative impacts that are not possible to mitigate. However, it is still reasonable to continue with the activity. Outline the reasons for this and the information used to reach this decision in the space below

Do not proceed

This EqIA has identified negative impacts that cannot be mitigated and it is not possible to continue. Outline the reasons for this and the information used to reach this decision in the space below

Reasons for decision

Sign-off

9. Sign off and approval by Head of Service / Strategic lead²⁴

Name Matthew Gunyon	Job title Head of Greenspaces
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tick this box to indicate that you have approved this EqIA	Date of approval: 10/08/2023
<input type="checkbox"/> Tick this box to indicate if EqIA has been published Date EqIA was published: Embed link to published EqIA:	Date of next review: Annually reviewed alongside fees and charges review.

Footnotes: guidance for completing the EqIA template

¹ The following principles explain what we must do to fulfil our duties under the Equality Act when considering any new policy or change to services. They must all be met or the EqIA (and any decision based on it) may be open to challenge:

- **Knowledge:** everyone working for the council must be aware of our equality duties and apply them appropriately
- **Timeliness:** the duty applies at the time of considering proposals and before a final decision is taken
- **Real Consideration:** the duty must be an integral and rigorous part of your decision-making and must influence the process.
- **Sufficient Information:** you must assess what information you have and what is needed to give proper consideration.
- **No delegation:** the council is responsible for ensuring that anyone who provides services on our behalf complies with the equality duty.
- **Review:** the equality duty is a continuing duty – it continues after proposals are implemented/reviewed.
- **Proper Record Keeping:** we must keep records of the process and the impacts identified.

² Our duties under the Equality Act 2010

The council has a legal duty under this Act to show that we have identified and considered the impact and potential impact of our activities on all people with ‘protected characteristics’ (see end notes 9-19 for details of the nine protected characteristics). This applies to policies, services (including commissioned services), and our employees.

We use this template to do this and evidence our consideration. You must give ‘due regard’ (pay conscious attention) to the need to:

- **Avoid, reduce or minimise negative impact:** if you identify unlawful discrimination, including victimisation and harassment, you must stop the action and take advice immediately.
- **Promote equality of opportunity:** by
 - Removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people with a protected characteristic
 - Taking steps to meet the needs of these groups
 - Encouraging people with protected characteristics to participate in public life or any other activity where participation is disproportionately low
 - Consider if there is a need to treat disabled people differently, including more favourable treatment where necessary
- **Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don’t:** e.g. by promoting understanding.

³ EqIAs should always be proportionate to:

- The size of the service or scope of the policy/strategy
- The resources involved
- The size of the likely impact – e.g. the numbers of people affected and their vulnerability

The greater the potential adverse impact of the proposal on a protected group (e.g. disabled people) and the more vulnerable the group is, the more thorough and demanding the process required by the Act will be. Unless they contain sensitive data – EqIAs are public documents. They are published with Cabinet papers, Panel papers and public consultations. They are available on request.

⁴ When to complete an EqIA:

- When developing a new policy, strategy, or service
- When reviewing an existing service, policy or strategy

-
- When making changes that will affect front-line services
 - When amending budgets which may affect front-line services
 - When changing the way services are funded and this may impact the quality of the service and who can access it
 - When making a decision that could have a different impact on different groups of people
 - When making staff redundant or changing their roles

Wherever possible, build the EqIA into your usual planning and review processes.

Also consider:

- Is the policy, decision or service likely to be relevant to any people because of their protected characteristics?
- How many people is it likely to affect?
- How significant are its impacts?
- Does it relate to an area where there are known inequalities?
- How vulnerable are the people who will be affected?

If there are potential impacts on people but you decide not to complete an EqIA you should document your reasons why.

⁵ **Title of EqIA:** This should clearly explain what service / policy / strategy / change you are assessing.

⁶ **Focus of EqIA:** A member of the public should have a good understanding of the proposals being assessed by the EqIA after reading this section. Please use plain English and write any acronyms in full first time - eg: 'Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)'

This section should explain what you are assessing:

- What are the main aims or purpose of the proposed change?
- Who implements, carries out or delivers the service or function in the proposal? Please state where this is more than one person or group, and where other organisations deliver it under procurement or partnership arrangements.
- How does it fit with other services?
- Who is affected by the service, or by how it is delivered? Who are the external and internal service-users, groups, or communities?
- What outcomes do you want to achieve, why and for whom? E.g.: what do you want to provide, what changes or improvements, and what should the benefits be?
- What do existing or previous inspections of the service tell you?
- What is the reason for the proposed change (financial, service, legal etc)? The Act requires us to make these clear.

⁷ **Data & Information:** Your EqIA needs to be informed by data. You should consider the following:

- What data is relevant to the impact on protected groups is available? (is there an existing EqIA?, local service data, national data, community data, similar proposal in another local authority).
- What further evidence is needed and how can you get it? (e.g. further research or engagement with the affected groups).
- What do you know from service/local data about needs, access and outcomes? Focus on each characteristic in turn.
- What might any local demographic changes or trends mean for the service or function? Also consider national data if appropriate.
- Does data/monitoring show that any policies or practices create particular problems or difficulties for any group(s)?

-
- Is the service having a positive or negative effect on particular people or groups in the community?

⁸ What have people told you about the service, function, area?

- Use service user feedback, complaints, audits
- Conduct specific consultation or engagement and use the results
- Are there patterns or differences in what people from different groups tell you?
- Remember, you must consult appropriately and in an inclusive way with those likely to be affected to fulfil the equality duty.
- You can read LBB [Consultation and Engagement toolkit](#) for full advice or contact the Consultation and Research Manager, rosie.evangelou@barnet.gov.uk for further advice

⁹ Age: People of all ages, but consider in particular children and young people, older people and carers, looked after children and young people leaving care. Also consider working age people.

¹⁰ Disability: When looking at disability, consideration should be given to people with different types of impairments: physical (including mobility), learning, aural or sensory (including hearing and vision impairment), visible and non-visible impairment. Consideration should also be given to: people with HIV, people with mental health needs and people with drug and alcohol problems. People with conditions such as diabetes and cancer and some other health conditions also have protection under the Equality Act 2010.

¹¹ Gender Reassignment: In the Act, a transgender person is someone who proposes to, starts or has completed a process to change their gender. A person does not need to be under medical supervision to be protected. Consider transgender people, transsexual people and transvestites.

¹² Marriage and Civil Partnership: consider married people and civil partners.

¹³ Pregnancy and Maternity: When looking at pregnancy and maternity, give consideration to pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, part-time workers, women with caring responsibilities, women who are lone parents and parents on low incomes, women on maternity leave and 'keeping in touch' days.

¹⁴ Race/Ethnicity: Apart from the common ethnic groups, consideration should also be given to Traveller communities, people of other nationalities outside Britain who reside here, refugees and asylum seekers and speakers of other languages.

¹⁵ Religion and Belief: Religion includes any religion with a clear structure and belief system. As a minimum you should consider the most common religious groups (Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Jews, Sikh, Buddhist) and people with no religion or philosophical beliefs.

¹⁶ Sex/Gender: Consider girls and women, boys and men, married people, civil partners, part-time workers, carers (both of children with disabilities and older cares), parents (mothers and fathers), in particular lone parents and parents on low incomes.

¹⁷ Sexual Orientation: The Act protects bisexual, heterosexual, gay and lesbian people.

¹⁸ Other relevant groups: You should consider the impact on our service users in other related areas.

¹⁹ Impact: Your EqIA must consider fully and properly actual and potential impacts against each protected characteristic:

- The equality duty does not stop changes, but means we must fully consider and address the anticipated impacts on people.
- Be accurate and transparent, but also realistic: don't exaggerate speculative risks and negative impacts.

-
- Be detailed and specific where you can so decision-makers have a concrete sense of potential effects.
 - Questions to ask when assessing whether and how the proposals impact on service users, staff and the wider community:
 - Are one or more protected groups affected differently and/or disadvantaged? How, and to what extent?
 - Is there evidence of higher/lower uptake of a service among different groups? Which, and to what extent?
 - Does the project relate to an area with known inequalities (where national evidence or previous research is available)?
 - If there are likely to be different impacts on different groups, is that consistent with the overall objective?
 - If there is negative differential impact, how can you minimise that while taking into account your overall aims?
 - Do the effects amount to unlawful discrimination? If so the plan **must** be modified.
 - Does it relate to an area where equality objectives have been set by LBB in our [Barnet 2024 Plan](#) and our [Strategic Equality Objective](#)?

²⁰ **Cumulative Impact**

You will need to look at whether a single decision or series of decisions might have a greater negative impact on a specific group and at ways in which negative impacts across the council might be minimised or avoided.

²¹ **Mitigating actions**

- Consider mitigating actions that specifically address the impacts you've identified and show how they will remove, reduce or avoid any negative impacts
- Explain clearly what any mitigating measures are, and the extent to which you think they will reduce or remove the adverse effect
- Will you need to communicate or provide services in different ways for different groups in order to create a 'level playing field'?
- State how you can maximise any positive impacts or advance equality of opportunity.
- If you do not have sufficient equality information, state how you can fill the gaps.

²² **Monitoring:** The Equality Duty is an ongoing duty: policies must be kept under review, continuing to give 'due regard' to the duty. If an assessment of a broad proposal leads to more specific proposals, then further monitoring, equality assessment, and consultation are needed.

²³ **Outcome:**

- Make a frank and realistic assessment of the overall extent to which the negative impacts can be reduced or avoided by the mitigating measures. Also explain what positive impacts will result from the actions and how you can make the most of these.
- Make it clear if a change is needed to the proposal itself. Is further engagement, research or monitoring needed?
- Make it clear if, as a result of the analysis, the policy/proposal should be stopped.

²⁴ **Sign off:** You will need to ensure the EqIA is signed off by your Head of Service, agree whether the EqIA will be published, and agree when the next review date for the EqIA will be.